

Abstract of the Disclosure:

A method for discovering and mapping elements in a subnet of a data network fabric. A single data packet may be sent from a subnet manager and broadcast by switches to other elements. Every time the packet is copied and forwarded, the identifier of the element and the node it passes through are recorded. Replies are generated when the packets reach end nodes or are received a second time at a switch. The use of specific node inport identifier in the packet speeds the process and avoids duplication. A batch request may also be utilized in conjunction with the broadcast so that multiple requests can be processed by the nodes at the same time.